(Rupees in Crores)

State	Amount Due	Amount Paid	Outstanding Dues (excluding disputed shares)
Madhya Pradesh	1052.34	488.89	509.41
Maharashtra	498.48	329.13	143.75
Rajasthan	294.86	62.95	222.00
TOTAL:	1845.68	880.97	875.16 (excluding disputed share of Rs. 89.55 crores)

The issue regarding payment of share costs of Sardar Sarovar Project to Govt, of Gujarat by other party States has been discussed in several meetings of Narmada (Sjentrol Authority and Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee and the States have been apprised of the need for immediate settlement of outstanding dues to the Govt, of Gujarat. The issue was also considered by the Review Committee for Narmada Control Authority in its seventh meeting held on 13.11.1996 where the States agreed to expedite the payment. The party States also agreed to make suitable provisions for the purpose in their Annual Plan/Budget. The Union Ministry of Water Resources are continuously requesting the concerned states to expedite the payment of their share cost to Gujarat.

China's support to Pakistan Nuclear programme

*134. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to China's reported support to Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme;

(b) if so, what is Government's information in regard thereto;

(c) Government's assessment about its repercussions on India's security; and

(d) whether in this context the US President has sought its Congressional approval of an agreement on peaceful nuclear cooperation between the US and China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Government are fully aware of the extensive cooperation of China in Pakistan's clandestine nuclear weapon programme. China has provided assistance, inter alia, in setting up unsafe-guarded research reactor and Plutonium re-processing facility, provided ring magnets, heavy water, diagnostic equipment etc.

(c) Government have made it clear that continuing supply of sophisticated nuclear weapons technology through clandestine means to Pakistan poses a threat to India's security and is not conductive to maintenance of peace and stability in the region. Government have been taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's national security interests and will continue to do so in keeping with its assessment of developments pertaining to India's security environment.

(d) Yes, Madam. Congressional hear ings were held in February, 1998 on US President's decision to give necessary cer tification to China to bring into effect the 1985 US-China Agreement on Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. Subsequently, in March, 1998, following a Presidential cer tification that China was not engaged in any proliferation activities or transfer of weapons of mass destruction, the 1985

US-China Agreement on Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy came into effect.

Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to States

*135. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an unanimous decision at the Chief Minister's Conference that the Centrally-sponsored schemes be transferred to ,the States;

(b) whether Government have concurred with this view; and

(c) if so, the time schedule for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) A Conference of the Chief Ministers on Basic Minimum Services was held on 4-5 July, 1996. With regard to the transfer of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) it was observed:

(i) Centrally Sponsored Schemes have proliferated in various Ministries. These schemes reflect the initiatives these Ministries have taken to focus on certain areas of national concern. Some are big while some schemes have small provision. There is considerable centralisation, rigidity, delay and inequity in the administra- , tjon of these schemes. In order to reflect appropriately the national priorities and to concentrate our efforts and resources on these priorities, the Conference suggested the streamlining of these Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(ii) All Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) relating to the seven Basic Minimum Services should be continued.

(iii) In addition, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme; in area of urban and rural poverty alleviation and employment, development of desert and drought prone areas, nutrition and for the welfare of SCs/STs/minorities and disabled persons of our society should be continued as such and States be given greater involvement, freedom and flexibility in the implementation of these programmes.

(iv) Provisions available under Centrally Sponsored Schemes other than those mentioned at (ii) and (iii) above should be pooled and basjc State entitlement ratios should be worked out on the basis of allocations made to the States in 1995-96.

(b) and (c) At the last National Development Council (NDC) meeting, held in January, 1997 to discuss the Draft Approach to the Ninth Plan, several Chief Ministers reiterated their suggestion for transfer of CSS to the States alongwith resources. According to the Apr proach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan, in principle, CSS should be confined to the schemes of an inter-State character, matters impinging on national security, selected national priorities where Central supervision is essential for effecitve implementation; and multi-State externally financed projects where Central coordination is necessary for operational reasons. After the NDC meeting the .Planning Commission prepared a note on the transfer of CSS to states keeping in view the observations made by the Cheif Ministers at the NDC meeting and the Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan. This note was sent to concerned Central Ministries/Departments and all States/UTs for their comments. Based on the replies received, a revised note on the subject is being processed for the consideration of the National Development Council (NDC). The proposal can be implemented only after approval by the NDC.

Development of Non-Conventional Energy Sources During Ninth Plan

*136. Dr. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government propose to develop non-conventional energy sources